GIBBS WELDING, INC.

22,360 ASHEVILLE HIGHWAY • LANDRUM, SOUTH CAROLINA 29356 • (803) 457-4544

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JULY 18, 1994

OSHA
DOCKET # H-122
ROOM N-2625
U. S. DEPT. OF LABOR
200 CONSTITUTION AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20210

SUBJECT: DOCKET # H-122

DEAR OSHA,

I WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO YOUR PROPOSED SMOKING REGULATION THAT YOU ARE NOW CONSIDERING.

THIS REGULATION WOULD BE FOR TO COSTLY FOR MY BUSINESS TO COMPLY WITH AS WE ARE A SMALL BUSINESS AND TO NOT HAVE BUT 10 TO 15 EMPLOYEES AT A TIME.

IT WOULD CAUSE A LOSS OF MURAL IN EMPLOYEES AS ALL OF THEM EITHER SMOKE OR CHEW TOBACCO.

IT WOULD CAUSE A LOSS IN PRODUCTIVITY AS THEY WOULD HAVE TO STOP THEIR WORK ON SOMEONES PARTS TO GO TO THE SMOKE ROOM.

IT WOULD ALSO COST ME MONEY BECAUSE THEY WOULD TAKE LONGER TO DO A PROJECT, WHICH WOULD UPSET THE CUSTOMERS. ALSO, THE CUSTOMERS THAT COME INTO MY SHOP, IF THEY SMOKE WANT A PLACE THAT THEY CAN SMOKE WHEN THEY WAIT ON THEIR PARTS.

A GREAT MANY OF THE CUSTOMERS DO SMOKE AND SOMETIME THEY DO WAIT ON THEIR THINGS.

OUR EMPLOYEES DO THEIR SMOKING OUT IN THE SHOP AREA WHERE THERE IS PLENTY OF AIR CIRCULATING AND THE DOORS ARE USUALLY OPEN. ALSO, IF SOMEONE COMES IN WHO DOES NOT SMOKE, THEY RESPECT THAT PERSON BY NOT DOING SO IN FRONT OF THEM.

THEY DO NOT SMOKE WHEN IN THE OFFICE PART OF OUR SHOP, AS IT HAS A NO SMOKING SIGN ON THE DOOR. OUR EMPLOYEES GET ALONG QUITE WELL ON THIS MATTER.

I DO NOT HAVE A LARGE AREA WHRE I COULD PUT THIS SPECIAL ROOM AND WOULD HAVE TO BUILD A NEW ROOM WHICH WOULD BE TO EXPENSE FOR A BUSINESS MY SIZE TO MAKE.

I FEEL THAT THIS IS ASKING TO MUCH OF AN EMPLOYER AND THAT IF A PERSON CHOSES TO SMOKE OR NOT SMOKE, THAT IS THEIR DECISION. I DO NOT SMOKE BUT DO NOT FEEL THAT SHOULD RESTRICK ANY ONE ELSE FROM DOING SO. MOST PEOPLE WILL USUALLY RESPECT THE PERSON WHO DOES NOT SMOKE IF GIVEN THE CHANCE. I DO NOT FEEL THAT THE EMPLOYER SHOULD HAVE TO DO THIS FOR THEM.

VERY TRULY YOURS

Ben E. Gibbs/president